

**ANIMAL MATTERS HEARING BOARD
FOR CHARLES COUNTY, MARYLAND
MINUTES OF MEETING - CASES
Tuesday, June 16, 2015**

The regularly scheduled meeting of the Animal Control Board for Charles County, Maryland, was convened by the Chairman at 6:30 p.m. in the County Commissioners Meeting Room, Charles County Government Building, with the following Board members in attendance.

Andrew Parker, Chairman
Mandy Foreman, Vice-Chair
Sean Brown
William Van Blarcum
Kristin Lake
Carl Blumenstein
Edward Tucker, Chief
Melody Haynes, Associate County Attorney
Maria Team, Clerk
Melody Weschler

A quorum was determined based upon the presence of a majority of the appointed Board Members.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of the Animal Matters Hearing Board for June 2, 2015, were approved and adopted.

Citation No. 6443 - issued to Terri Newby, 11950 Goldie Farm Place, Waldorf, Maryland 20601 for the alleged violation of Section 230.12, and Section 230.12.4.A.9 and Section 230.12.5.C of the Charles County Animal Regulations for her dog "Stryker." Ms. Newby was at the hearing and not represented by counsel. Testimony was heard from Terri Newby Ronald Kilinski, witness for owner, and Officer Jeff Gustafson. Ms. Newby admitted to being in violation of all three violations. Entered into evidence was a reclaim and boarding fee receipt from Tri-County Animal Shelter in the amount of \$320.00 marked County Ex. 1.

Based on the testimony presented, the Board found Ms. Newby in violation of the three allegations and fined her a total of \$150.00, and allowed her to reclaim "Stryker" the following day on the condition that she pay reclaim and boarding fees to Tri-County Animal Shelter in the amount of \$320.00, and obey all laws for 18 months. Ms. Newby has until the close of business on July 7, 2015 to satisfy the \$150.00 fine.

Citation No. 6466 – issued to Michael Loverin, 153430 Sorrel Ridge Lane, Waldorf, MD 20601 for the alleged violation of Section 230.10.A, Section 230.12, Section 230.9.A and Section 230.12.6.C of the Charles County Animal Regulations. Mr. Loverin was present at the hearing and not represented by counsel. Testimony was heard from Mr. Loverin and Officer Alison Budd. Entered into evidence was a current animal license and a current rabies certificate marked Owner Ex. A. Mr. Loverin admitted being in violation of all the allegations.

Based on the testimony and evidence, the Board made a finding that Mr. Loverin was in violation of all the allegations and fined him a total of \$150.00, suspending \$120.00 from that amount on the condition that he obey all laws for 18 months. Mr. Loverin satisfied the balance of \$30.00 at the end of the hearing.

Citation No. 6410 – issued to Wendy Lynn Vermillion-Flynn, 9254 Mimosa Drive, La Plata, Maryland 20646 for the alleged violation of Section 230.10.A, and 230.12.5 of the Charles County Animal Regulations for her dog “Khalessi.” Ms. Vermillion-Flynn was present at the hearing and not represented by counsel. Testimony was heard from Ms. Vermillion-Flynn, Josh Flynn, Justin Wade and Officer Jeff Thomas. Ms. Vermillion-Flynn testified that she was moving to St. Mary’s County on June 20, 2015.

Based on the testimony heard, the Board made a finding that Ms. Vermillion-Flynn was in violation of Section 230.10.A and 230.12.5 and fined her a total of \$90.00 to be satisfied by the close of business on July 7, 2015, and Ordered her to comply with the requirements stated in Section 230.12.5.E. 1, 2 3, 5 (a) and (b), 6, 7 and 8 of the Charles County Animal Regulations if she is to remain in Charles County.

Citation No. 6444 – issued to Dominique Steadman, 20 Helen Court, Indian Head, MD 20646 for the alleged violation of Section 230.10.A, Section 230.12, Section 230.9.A and Section 230.12.5 of the Charles County Animal Regulations for his dog “Shadow.” Mr. Steadman was present at the hearing and not represented by counsel. Testimony was heard from Mr. Steadman, Anthony Belcher (witness for owner), Officer Jeff Thomas and Lauren Moore and Thomas Ferguson (witnesses for County). Entered into evidence was a medical and vet report marked County Ex. 1, and a current rabies certificate and license marked Owner Ex. A.

Based on the testimony and evidence presented, the Board found Mr. Steadman in violation of all the allegations and fined him a total of \$190.00, and Ordered him to comply with the requirements stated in Section 12.5.E 1, 2, 3, 5 (a) and (b), 6, 7 and 8 of the Charles County Animal Regulations and obey all laws for 18 months. Mr. Steadman satisfied the balance of \$190.00 at the end of the hearing.

Citation Nos. 6408 and 6409 – issued to Kurt L. Carlson, 2566 Laurel Branch Drive, Waldorf, Maryland for the alleged violation of Section 230.10.A and Section 230.12.5 of the Charles County Animal Regulations for his dogs “Ms. Mary Penny” and “Snoopy.” Kurt Carlson and Debra Carlson were present at the hearing and not represented by counsel. Testimony was heard from Mr. and Mrs. Carlson, Officer Jeff Thomas and Debbie King and Barry Robey (witnesses for County). Entered into evidence were 24 photos marked County Ex. 1, and a medical report and vet bills marked County Ex. 2. Also entered into evidence was a current license for both dogs marked Owner Ex. A.

Based on the testimony and evidence presented, the Board found Mr. and Mrs. Carlson in violation of Section 230.10.A and Section 230.12.5 and fined them a total of \$180.00 and Ordered them to comply with the requirements stated in Section 230.12.5.E 1, 2, 3, 5 (a) and (b), 7 and 8 of the Charles County Animal Regulations and obey all laws for 18 months. Mr. and Mrs. Carlson satisfied the balance of \$180.00 at the end of the hearing.

Citation No. 6476 – issued to Nakisha Simeon, 4518 Grouse Place, Waldorf, Maryland 20603 for the alleged violation of Section 230.12.5 of the Charles County Animal Regulations for her dog “Sampson.” Ms. Simeon was present at the hearing and not represented by counsel. Testimony was heard from Ms. Simeon, Officer Kevin Earle and Joseph Robinson (witness for county).

Based on the testimony heard, the Board found Ms. Simeon in violation of Section 230.12.5 and, and Ordered her to comply with the requirements stated in Section 230.12.5.E 1, 2, 3, 5 (a) and (b) of the Charles County Animal Regulations, if she intends to adopt “Sampson” from the Humane Society. Currently, the Humane Society has custody of “Sampson.”

There being no further business, the Chairman adjourned the hearing at 9:00 p.m.